

Message Text

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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION - KAMPALA RESOLUTION ON ISRAELI PARTICIPATION IN UN

1. SUMMARY. IN WAKE OF KAMPALA RESOLUTION ON ISRAELI PARTICIPATION AT UN, LEAD EDITORIAL IN CURRENT ISSUE OF "FILASTIN ATH-THAWRA" HAS DRAMATICALLY BROKEN PLO'S SILENCE ON ISSUE WITH WIDE-RANGING ATTACK ON EGYPT FOR ITS "SUCCESSIVE DEVIATIONS" IN SERVICE OF "ZIONIST ENEMY", PDFLP WEEKLY "AL-HURRIYYA" PRO-LIBYAN "AL-KIFAH AL'ARABI", AND PRO-IRAQI "BEIRUT" HAVE (UNSURPRISINGLY) FOLLOWED SUIT. SOME COMMENTATORS, NOTABLY IN LEADING LEFTIST PRO-PLO "AL-MUHARRIR" AND PRO-LIBYAN "AS-SAFIR", PREFERRED TO SOFTEN THEIR CRITICISM BY ATTACKING "ARAB POLICY" IN GENERAL INSTEAD OF EGYPT. ONLY ONE PAPER, INDEPENDENT "LISAN AL-HAL", OPENLY SUPPORTED EGYPTIAN POSITION, PRO-EGYPTIAN PAPERS HAVE REMAINED CURIOUSLY SILENT. END SUMMARY.

2. IN DRAMATIC RUPTURE OF PLO'S SILENCE, WEEKLY ORGAN
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"FILASTIN ATH-THAWRA" WROTE IN LEAD EDITORIAL (AUG. 3):

"IGNOBLE DEFENSE OF ISRAEL'S CONTINUED MEMBERSHIP IN UN... BRINGING US SQUARELY FACE TO FACE WITH REALITIES OF AMERICA'S SCHEMES TO IMPOSE ITS FULL DOMINATION ON AREA. THIS WAS REVEALED AT AFRICAN SUMMIT CONFERENCE, WHEN ONE OF DELEGATES STOOD UP TO DEFEND ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO REMAIN IN INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION, THUS RENOUNCING HIS NATIONAL COMMITMENT TO CAUSE OF PALESTINE.... THIS EGYPTIAN ATTITUDE IS CULMINATION OF SUCCESSIVE DEVIATIONS, WHICH TODAY FORM NEW BASIS OF EGYPTIAN POLICY TOWARD ALL ARAB AND INTERNATIONAL ISSUES.... IT IS OUR URGENT REVOLUTIONARY AND NATIONALIST TASK TO DETERMINE PALESTINIAN POSITION TOWARD THIS POLICY, WHOSE RESULTS WORK DIRECTLY FOR ZIONIST ENEMY AND IMPERIALIST SCHEMES IN REGION AND AGAINST SUPREME NATIONAL INTEREST AND PALESTINIAN PEOPLE."

3. SIMILAR CONDEMNATIONS OF EGYPTIAN POLICY APPEARED IN PRO-PDFLP WEEKLY "AL-HURRIYYA" OF AUG. 4 (ZURERS OF EGYPT... HAVE OFFERED IMPERIALISM AND ZIONISM UNPRECEDENTED CONCESSIONN.), PRO-LIBYAN "AL-KIFAH AL-'ARABI" OF AUG. 5 ("THIS ANTINATIONALIST POSITION... HAS REVEALED DEGREE TO WHICH EGYPTIAN REGIME AS SUBMITTED TO AMERICAN DOMINATION."), AND PRO-IRAQI "BEIRUT" OF AUG. 3 ("EGYPTIAN REGIME FULFILLED ITS PROMISE TO BLOCK RESOLUTION IN ORDER TO REMOVE OBSTACLE TO PROGRESS OF SINAI NEGOTIATIONS.").

4. SOME COMMENTATORS PREFERRED TO SOFTEN THEIR CRITICISM BY ATTACKING "ARAB POLICY" IN GENERAL. LEADING LEFTIST PRO-PLO "AL-MUHARRIR" WROTE (AUG. 2): "RESULT OF OAU SUMMIT WAS FAILURE NOT SO MUCH FOR AFRICANS AS FOR ARAB POLICY, WHICH APPEARED TO LACK COORDINATION AT CONFERENCE." PRO-LIBYAN "AS-SAFIR" WROTE (AUG. 3): "WHAT HAPPENED IN KAMPALA WAS... INDICATION OF SERIOUSNESS OF ARAB FAILURE TO ADOPT ATTITUDE OF TRUE NATIONALIST STRUGGLE AGAINST ISRAEL."

5. ONLY SALIM GHULAM OF INDEPENDENT "LISAN AL-HAL" HAS OPENLY SUPPORTED EGYPTIAN POSITION (AUG. 5): "AS FAR AS ARABS ARE CONCERNED, DECISION TO EXPEL ISRAEL FROM UN WOULD DO THEM NO GOOD. INDEED... IT COULD HAVE OPPOSITE EFFECT. ISOLATION OF ISRAEL FROM INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY AND FROM UN WOULD PLACE ISRAEL OUTSIDE UN CHARTER, AND NO UNCLASSIFIED

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ONE COULD... TALK TO IT ABOUT ITS COMMITMENTS UNDER THIS CHARTER, WHICH DENOUNCES OCCUPATION OF TERRITORIES OF ONE STATE BY ANOTHER."

6. PRO-EGYPTIAN PAPERS HAVE REMAINED CURIOUSLY SILENT, ALTHOUGH LEADING PRO-EGYPTIAN "AL-ANWAR" HAS NOTED (AUG. 5) THAT "AFRICAN STATES... DIFFERED OVER EXPELLING ISRAEL FROM UN."

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